



AESD EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING – Agenda

January 17, 2023 // PSESD, 800 Oakesdale Ave SW, Renton and Zoom

- **Networking – 11:00am – 11:30am**, Rainier Room, 3rd Floor
- **Meeting & Lunch – 11:45am**, Duwamish Room, 1st Floor

Executive Board

President

Marcia Henkle, NCESD 171

President Elect

Terry Brandon, ESD 123

Members

June Sine	NEWESD 101
James Sebree	ESD 105
Darlene Stickel	ESD 112
Dale McDaniel	CRESO 113
Cliff Huenergard	OESD 114
Mehret	
Tekle-Awarun	PSESD 121
Terry Brandon	ESD 123
Marcia Henkle	NCESD 171
Merle Kirkley	NWESD 189

Superintendents

Rob Roettger	NEWESD 101
Kevin Chase	ESD 105
Tim Merlino	ESD 112
Dana Anderson	ESD 113
Aaron Leavell	OESD 114
John Welch	PSESD121
Steve McCullough	ESD 123
Michelle Price	NCESD 171
Larry Francois	NWESD 189

Legislative Liaison

Melissa Gombosky

Executive Director, AESD/OSPI Network

Jessica Vavrus

I. **Welcome**

Lead: President, Marcia Henkle

Welcome, Introductions, Pledge of Allegiance, Review of agenda

President Marcia Henkle called the meeting to order at 12:15pm and led the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance, introductions, and a review of the agenda.

Meeting materials can be found [here](#).

II. **Consent Agenda**

Lead: President, Marcia Henkle

For Reference: 11/16/22 meeting minutes (draft) | Today's Meeting Materials

Actions to approve agenda and minutes from the 11/16/22 Executive Board meeting.

Merle Kirkley motioned to approve. Terry Brandon seconded the motion. The agenda and 11/16/22 AESD Board meeting minutes are approved.

III. **2023 ESD Board Election Process / WSSDA Collaboration**

WSSDA Guests: Tim Garchow, Sean Duke, Michelle Choate

The WSSDA team shared the status of shifting the ESD board member election process from OSPI to WSSDA and shared that board members and superintendents will have a chance to provide input to the process.

Tim Garchow gave an overview of WSSDA's election activities to this point and described how WSSDA's ballots are changing to function more like state elections. Once a year school board members in the state will receive one ballots with statewide elections and WSSDA officers. WSSDA also streamlined the election process by mirroring the state filing process and providing live updates on candidates, then providing an online voter pamphlet.

WSSDA is working towards pulling all like elections into its online platform. In RCW, a technical fix has been filed to take away references to paper ballots and postmarks so the process is fully virtual. The software is called Election Runner and sends unique encrypted links to each board member. State law says that a committee must oversee the process, and WSSDA has been nominated to provide that committee. Tim gave an overview of the website function and how each election is sent to the correct voters. The formal announcement of this process will go out on at the Annual Conference.

The board asked clarifying questions, offered commentary, and discussed the positive effect of school board members knowing more about the AESD work and having better access to elections.

Tim spoke about greater representation of small school districts as they promote this work and the support ESDs can give to administrators, including creating a 'did you know' within the small schools forum to educate administrators on the assistance available.

The board discussed the value of this change of process.

IV. Legislative Updates & AESD Priorities

Lead: Michelle Price (Melissa Gombosky, written report)

Melissa's written weekly legislative update was shared with the Executive Board. Michelle provided updates on legislative meetings, topics, and AESD priorities.

The AESD is active in testifying on multiple bills, including:

- The AESD behavior and mental health initiative
- Regional Safety Centers and student well-being initiatives
- Threat Assessment
- Establishing Regional Apprenticeships
- Special Education
- Transportation
- Principle collective bargaining rights

The AESD is especially active in testifying on the behavioral health initiative budget, and meeting with Senator Rusal to request additional funding.

The Early Learning bill is not well received yet and both side of the aisle are engaged.

Bill HB 1013 to establish regional apprenticeships has a lot of momentum and support from both sides of the aisle.

There are some concerns with the principal collective bargaining bills. There is some opposition and concern from small districts especially.

The AESD is also watching the paraprofessional testing standards accommodations bill and supporting on behalf of PESB and is pushing back against requirements that paraprofessionals come to testing centers instead of being able to use ESD testing facilities as well.

V. AESD Redesign Work

a. AESD Governance Document Alignment – Proposed Constitution Updates

Leads: Terry Brandon, June Sine, De Stickel, Steve McCullough (staff support: Jessica Vavrus)

For reference: [Summary of Proposed 2023 Revisions](#) | [Constitution Review/Revision Phases \(Mar. 2022\)](#) | [AESD Governance Document Side-by-Side \(Nov. 2022\)](#) | [AESD Constitution \(Apr. 2022\)](#)

The team provided an overview of their approach to reviewing the Constitution for updates and shared a draft red-line version for the Board to react to.

The Constitution sub-committee took work from last year, reviewed updates, and De provided copy-editing to clarify language and grammar. Jessica gave an overview of the adjustments.

Terry Brandon let the board know to be prepared for edits in areas of the constitution that have already been edited, but that those are largely wordsmithing changes, not content changes.

Jessica shared new changes, including a clarified purpose and the duties of Executive Board updated to include roles with network budget and dispute resolution. Jessica also reached out to Marnie Allen for legal clarity with the changes to the constitution.

Jessica asked for reactions from the board and shared changes would be published for ESD boards to review in March, 30 days prior to annual business meeting.

VI. 2023 Annual Conference Updates

Lead: Jessica Vavrus, Dana Anderson, John Welch

The team provided an update on the upcoming Annual Conference, including a draft agenda, and anticipated registration fees/process.

For reference: [Conference theme and branding](#)

John gave update on the conference details:

- April 12-14, Hyatt Lake Washington
- Theme, Centering Students, Strengthening Systems
- Purpose: to elevate student voice,
- The save-the-date for this year's Wed-Fri schedule will go out by Feb 10.

This is the first year for charging for registration in a couple of years. Superintendents and the planning team will be focusing on securing \$50,000 in sponsorships to offset costs. The board was asked to look for entities that make be interested in supporting the event, and to either contact the entities or send contact information to Jessica Vavrus. The board was also asked to promote the conference to their home boards and staff and to be vocal about the value of the event. There will be an option for a plus one, with details to come.

The board brainstormed opportunities to invite community partners for networking opportunities, such as local school boards and top education officials, highlighting the diversity of the student boards to draw attendees.

The board will push for nominations for the 2023 Award of Distinction. The Award of Distinction sub-committee will consist of Merle Kirkley, Marcia Henkle, and Mehret Tekle-Awarun, with support from Cliff Huenergard. The board discussed ways to improve the number of submitted nominations and discussed the criteria for the award, including the nominee's impact to the state system of ESDs, how they are a friend of education statewide, their impact to local education systems. The board and support staff will coordinate with Presidents region for the art piece award.

The board chose a conference logo from a selection created by communications staff.

The 2024 conference will take place at Campbells on location in Chelan on April 3-4-5, 2024 with approval from the board in attendance.

VII. Good of the Order & Upcoming

Lead: Marcia Henkle / All

Marcia led the board in a quick round robin for group sharing.

Terry Brandon suggested that future meeting days condense the Superintendent meeting and the AESD Board meeting into one meeting with all. The board discussed.

Dale McDaniel shared that Dr. Dana Anderson has announced his resignation from ESD 113, effective July 1, 2023, and requested that board members who have recently gone through Superintendent search please contact with any insight into the process.

The next AESD Board Meeting will take place March 13, 2023, in-person @ PSESD

VIII. Adjourn

Meeting was adjourned at 1:33pm